

Labor-1927
Agents and Agencies.

Alabama.

They Don't Like To Lose 'Em

Cotton
New York, March 30.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue, has received a clipping reporting the arrest in Bessemer, Ala., of a colored "labor agent" on charges of having recruited and transported laborers from Alabama to Kentucky.
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General.

ENTERPRISE
BURLINGTON, N. J.

MAY 14 1927

LABOR AGENTS' ACTIVITIES

It is reported that in some of the southern states labor agents are busy endeavoring to induce colored refugees to leave the south and come north. This is a more serious business than it would appear to be from a mere statement of the fact. Most of the southern states impose penalties on agents that endeavor to induce Negro laborers to leave. Some of the states require a per capita tax from agents. Farm labor in the cotton belt is not more than sufficient to take care of local requirements. In other words, the farm laborer is in demand. He usually hires himself out for a year and with bag and baggage is moved by his new employer to the plantation where he is provided with a house and garden patch. As a rule he is staked until the crop matures when he receives his pay in money or shares, adjusts his account and lays his plans for the next year. Farming is his business, and northern agents who seek his services for factory or other labor purposes in the north are not made welcome. So we hear that vigilance committees are forming in the south at this time to prevent these agents from running off with the labor. There ought to be mutual sympathy between the north and the south in this matter. The south knows how to get along with the Negro, and certainly needs his labor to such a degree that he will treat him right to retain his services. Particularly this year the river states in the south will need all the labor they can command. To take it away will be to add hardships to a section that needs help.